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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 23, 1977

COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. Kempton B. Jenkins
Acting Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Jenkins: RE: Imprisonment of South Korean reform leaders

The enclosed letter from my constituent Dr. Alta Burnett, is forwarded for your attention.

I would appreciate any assistance possible in obtaining information regarding this matter which would enable me to respond promptly and properly to my constituent.

Thanks for your help. With best wishes.

Sincerely,

ROMANO L. MAZZOLI
Member of Congress

RLM:jbp
Enc.

RE: Imprisonment of Kim Dae Jung & Steven Moon in S. Korea

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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MAR 2 1977

2736 Frankfort Avenue, 203
Louisville, Kentucky 40206
27 February 1977

The Honorable Romano L. Mazzoli
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Mazzoli:

March 1 marks the anniversary of the imprisonment of eighteen of South Korea's most prominent religious and political leaders for urging democratic reforms in their government and economic structure. Ten of them are still in solitary confinement with no heat in the prison.

As a citizen from your area, I am asking your help in finding out about the welfare of the ten still imprisoned, especially Mr. Kim Dae-Jung, the leader of the Korean political opposition (I understand he has been ill without proper treatment for several months), and Mr. Moon Dong-Hwan ("Steve" Moon), whose family I met while visiting in South Korea in 1974.

Now that our laws call for the ending of military aid to repressive governments (Security Assistance Bill, Sect. 502B, 1976-77), I urge you to note the repressiveness of the South Korean government and to vote a halt to such massive military aid to that country. As a taxpayer I do not want my money spent keeping people such as Mr. Kim and Mr. Moon in prison.

I am aware of President Carter's recent statements about repression in Russia and Eastern Europe and the strategic position of South Korea in terms of U. S. Asian and global interests. Would you please explain to me the real reasons our government is not speaking out about repression in South Korea which we support massively with economic and military aid.

Sincerely,

Alta M. Burnett

Alta M. Burnett, Ph.D.